

CITY OF MIAMI BEACH
Office of the City Manager
Letter to Commission No. 041-2005



To: Mayor David Dermer and
Members of the City Commission

Date: February 1, 2005

From: Jorge M. Gonzalez
City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Jorge M. Gonzalez".

Subject: CRIME STATISTICS ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2004

This Letter to the Commission is to inform the Mayor and City Commission of the Florida Uniform Crime Report (UCR) statistics for Part 1 Crimes as indexed annually, for the year 2004. Part 1 Crimes include Homicide, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Larceny and Motor Vehicle Thefts.

Overall, Part 1 Crimes decreased by 1.88% in the year 2004 (for a detailed breakdown see attachment #1). This follows an increase of 2.12% for the prior year.

Some highlights from the UCR Report are:

- **The total number of Forcible Rapes decreased 27.77%**
- **The total number of Robberies increased 15.39%**
- **The total number of Aggravated Assaults increased 2.55%**
- **The total number of Burglaries increased 9.97%**
- **The total number of Larcenies decreased 6.65%**
- **The total number of Auto Thefts increased 3.37%**

Enclosed is a series of charts (attachment #2) that illustrate the last five (5) years of crime statistics in each respective category. Although there is a small decrease in crime, from last year in 2003, a five (5) year trend analysis of Part 1 Crimes reflects that from the year 2000 to 2004, crime has significantly decreased by 19% or from 12,393 to 10,410.

For the reporting period the most dramatic positive change, was a 27.77% decrease in Forcible Rapes, this is of particular significance, since in the year 2003, Forcible Rapes had increased 27.50% from 2002. This decrease can be attributed in part to the public information and education campaign initiated by personnel in our Criminal Investigations Division. Through their efforts they met with various groups and forums that represent the nightlife and entertainment district to instruct on awareness to the problem of date rape, and date rape drugs.

Arrests are a true indicator of a police department's drive toward effective police service. In keeping with this standard, the MBPD since 2000 has increased the number of arrests. As a result of our police officers dedicated efforts, felony and misdemeanor arrests have steadily surged; however, worth noting is the significant increase from 8,646 arrests in

2003 to 10,290 arrests in 2004, or a 19% rise. This advance in enforcement activity, can also be seen in the marked rise in traffic enforcement, for 2004 with 44,2303 Hazardous Moving Violations issued compared to 25,045 in 2003 for a remarkable increase of 76%. These two work load measures characterize the Miami Beach Police Department's commitment to law enforcement and public safety.

Because of the vibrant nature and unique nightlife of our City, we have become the destination of choice for many tourists. This steady influx of people has translated into greater calls for police service. As a result, we have a marked increase in calls for service from 128,737 in 2003 to 143,727 in 2004, or 11.6%. The impact of this trend challenges the MBPD and other departments in the City's infrastructure.

Unfortunately, the trend relative to an increase in robberies was also realized in the unincorporated areas of Miami Dade County with a dramatic 88% increase in the number of Visitor Robberies from 2003 to 2004, as reported by the Miami Dade Police Department. This problem has led the MBPD to take very pro-active measures to mitigate robberies and burglaries by deploying personnel resources at times and places to prevent these crimes and apprehend the perpetrators. With these interventions there should be a marked decrease in these types of crimes, in the coming months.

JMG/DWD/MG

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MEMORANDUM

To: Hernan Cardeno
Commander of Technical Services Division

From: Carolyn Johnson
Police Records Supervisor

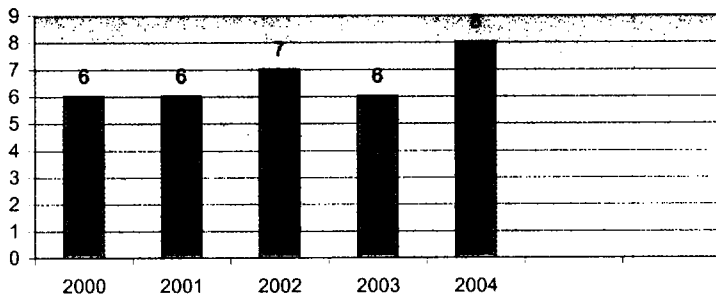
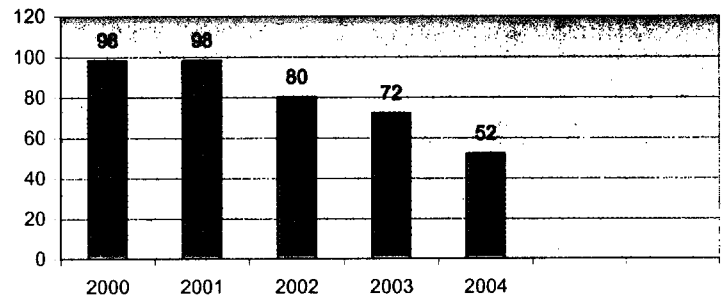
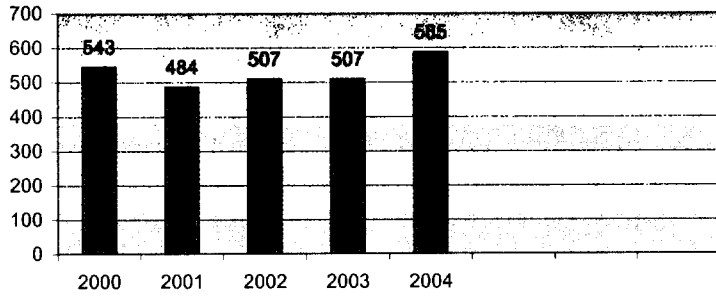
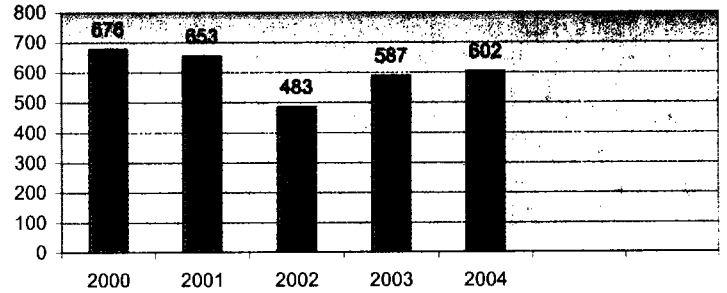
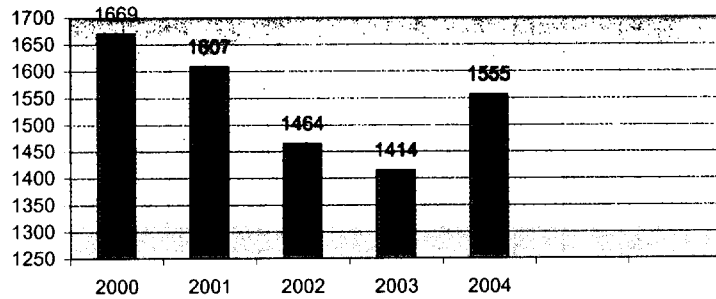
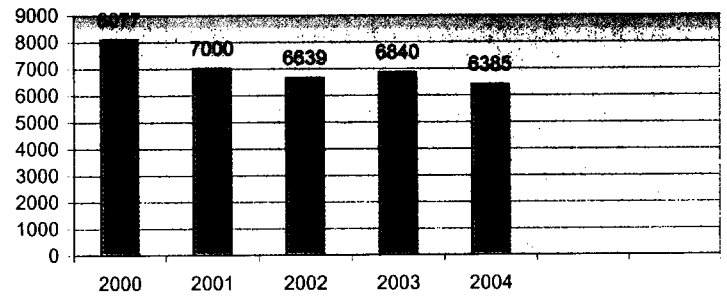
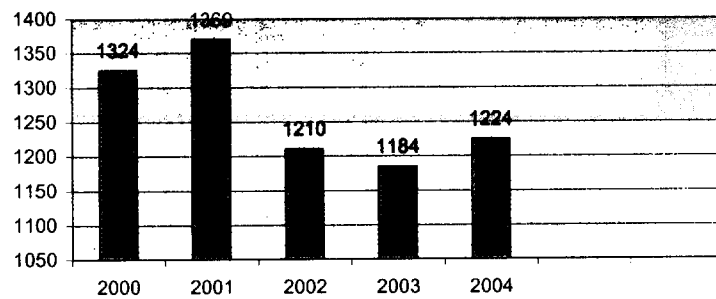
Date: January 28, 2005

Subject: UCR STATS 2003/2004

Crime Type	Jan-Dec 2003	Jan-Dec 2004	%Change
Homicide	6	8	33.33%
Rape ¹	72	52	(-27.77%)
Robbery	507	585	15.39%
Aggravated Assault	587	602	2.55%
Burglary	1414	1555	9.97%
Larceny	6840	6385	(-6.65%)
Auto Theft	1184	1224	3.37%
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Crime Total	10,610	10,411	(-1.88%) ²

¹ Sodomy and forcible fondling offenses are included in the aggravated assault total pursuant to UCR rules.

² Percentage compiled and verified by Cmdr. H. Cardeno

Murder**Forcible Sex Offenses****Robbery****Aggravated Assault****Burglary****Larceny****Motor Vehicle Theft****Total Index Offenses**